

F-8 JUL 1942  
O.R.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,  
Clevedon Urban District, for the year, 1942.



Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

The following is a brief report upon the health of the town, with vital statistics for the year 1942, together with your Sanitary Inspector's report for the same period.

Public Health Staff.

G. Macleod, M.C., M.A., M.D., D.P.H.  
I.J. Leach, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., F.I.A.S.

M.O.H. (part-time)  
Sanitary Inspector  
and Surveyor.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area	3292 acres
Registrar General's estimate of Population.	9982
Number of Inhabited Houses and Flats	2637
Rateable Value	£75152
Sum represented by a penny rate	£300/17/3

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	59	50	109
Illegitimate	-	4	4

Birth Rate per 1000 of the population = 11.3

There were 140 births registered from the Maternity Unit and 61 from two local nursing homes.

<u>Still Births.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	4	3	7

Rate per 1000 births = 58.

<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
	75	117	192

Death Rate per 1000 = 19.2 (uncorrected)  
Average Age at death = 69.7 years.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age:- Male = 5. Female = 1. Total 6  
Infant Mortality Rate = 50

Deaths of Infants under one year occurred as under -  
Under 1 week: 3  
1 - 4 weeks: 2  
1 - 6 months: 1

Deaths from some specified causes: -

Cancer	32
Influenza	2
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	1
Whooping Cough	nil
Puerperal Sepsis	nil

<u>Notifiable Diseases</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Admitted to Hospital.</u>	<u>Deaths</u>
Scarlet Fever	1	1	nil
Pneumonia	7	-	"
Erysipelas	1	-	"
Whooping Cough	35	-	"

Tuberculosis.

Pulmonary. 1 Male died at the age of 65 years.  
Other Tuberculosis. 1 Boy of 2½ years died of T.B. Meningitis.

Notifications:

<u>Age Periods.</u>	<u>Respiratory.</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory.</u>	
	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
1 - 5	-	-	1	-
5 - 15	-	-	2	-
15 - 25	2	1	-	1

Notifications (continued) :

<u>Age Periods</u>	<u>Respiratory.</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory.</u>	
	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
25 - 35	3	2	1	-
35 - 45	2	1	1	-
45 - 55	-	-	-	-
55 - 65	2	-	-	-
TOTALS	9	4	5	1

The year has been a busy one, but serious illness of an epidemic nature was not encountered. During the first quarter mumps were still prevalent among adults and adolescents and there were some cases of mild influenza and streptococcal throat infections. During the third quarter we had a sharp outbreak of Sonne dysentery from the 14th to the 24th July, from which a large number of children and adults suffered. In spite of previous chlorination of the water supply, it has been established that the infection was water-borne, and increased chlorination has led to the suppression of the outbreak, from which few secondary cases developed. In the fourth quarter, epidemic jaundice made its appearance, in October, and has been widespread among children generally and young adults, and in November we had whooping cough, with a proportion of cases of real severity.

It is significant that we have had no case of diphtheria during the year, a circumstance which can justifiably be attributed to the good response to appeals for the immunisation of children. It is hoped that during the summer months parents and guardians will see to it that no child is left unprotected.

The medical and ancillary services mentioned in last year's report have all continued to function satisfactorily.

I have to acknowledge again with thanks the help obtained from all members of the staff, from the County and Bristol Health Authorities and from the Royal Naval Bacteriological staff.

Your obedient servant,

G. MACLEOD.

28.6.43.

## RIVERS & STREAMS.

The apportionments of the Rivers for which the Clevedon Council are responsible have been cleared at the appointed times and no official complaints have been received. It has been observed that a quantity of rubbish, tins garden refuse, etc., has to be taken out each time the Rivering is carried out. This adds of course, to the time and cost of clearing and also creates a nuisance.

## HOUSE REFUSE AND COLLECTION.

Owing to depletion of staff, sickness of the regular Refuse men and many members of my staff being incapacitated it has been difficult to keep the system of collection going according to schedule, but by occasional use of other vehicles the work has proceeded without serious inconvenience to householders.

A considerable amount of War-time Salvage is collected by the House Refuse men from private houses, business premises etc., and containers are provided as far as available.

It is noticed however that quite a lot of paper, and quantities of tins, which are valuable materials for War-time production, still appear in the House Refuse bins.

## WAR TIME SALVAGE.

The result attained has, on the whole, proved gratifying as the figures attached will show. Unfortunately the figures do not contain all the Salvage which goes out of the District of Clevedon; viz:- salvage collected by the Scouts and Guides, by private business people 'selling direct', and by a firm from Bristol, (permitted by the Ministry of Supply to collect from door to door). This could, of course, be collected by our own men at a small additional cost and time and thus add considerably to our returns.

## KITCHEN WASTE FOR PIG SWILL.

This service has shown satisfactory results as the appended figures indicate.

The method adopted by the Committee of placing covered bins in the streets has been appreciated and a large number of Householders collect their kitchen waste and deposit it in the bins. It can be seen however that there are many who still have not yet realised the value of saving all bits of waste for the production of food and the saving of shipping. This is evident from the deposits in the House Refuse Bins.

## SEWERS.

The sewers have been periodically surveyed and their reaction observed during periods of heavy storms and high tides. In spite of the additional loading, consequent upon an influx of War-time residents and a test of storm and high tide, no extraordinary defects in discharge were observed.

Two sectional defects have been noted and reported to the Sanitary Committee and will have to be dealt with when labour is available, although the defects are not now evident

## SCHOOLS.

Sanitary conveniences have been periodically inspected and in most cases have been reasonably clean and satisfactory. The Convenience on the premises of one evacuated school proved inadequate but additional conveniences have been built.

## SCHOOLS (contd.)

The occupation of a private house by a school without adequate sanitary accommodation was dealt with under the Public Health Act 1936 and the requisite notices served. The proprietors of the school transferred the school elsewhere however.

In consequence of a report that another house was to be used as a private school I met the proprietor at the house and detailed certain sanitary requirements necessary and these were carried out.

## COUNCIL HOUSES.

Very few difficulties have arisen in regard to the Council Houses. Those that have occurred have been satisfactorily dealt with by the Housing Committee.

The Committee has under consideration the provision of more houses for the manual workers, as a post-war project and I am pleased to see that the feeling appears to be for a housing estate lay-out on a "Garden City" style.

Houses which have become vacant have been inspected and the necessary repairs and decorations carried out.

## DISINFECTION, FUMIGATION, ETC.

No instructions have been received for any extraordinary cases this year but many more usual cases have been dealt with including bugs, fleas and filth.

## DAIRIES & COWSHEDS.

These have been periodically inspected and notification made where necessary.

All milk producers and retailers have been notified of the new Regulation in regard to the preservation of milk before collection and asking for their co-operation.

The cleanliness of the cowsheds has shown an improvement this year.

One Small-holding which has been without running water for the cowshed has now been supplied.

## HOUSES FOR TRANSFERRED WAR WORKERS.

When houses have been requisitioned for War-workers, Specifications and Plans have been prepared and prices obtained for either conversion into flats or for redecoration and improvement.

Where carried out by private enterprise, specifications and plans have been dealt with through the usual channels.

## HOUSES BY PRIVATE ENTERPRISE. SANITARY IMPROVEMENT ETC.

Several improvements have been carried out by owners of properties after consultation or notification and in many cases the sanitary arrangements have been completely renewed.

## Add. COUNCIL HOUSES.

A large number of repairs and sanitary matters have been carried out as per attached schedule.



## APPENDIX 1.

### HOUSE REFUSE & COLLECTION

It would considerably ease the work of collection if householders (where possible) would place their House Refuse Bins and Salvage near the entrance to their premises on collection days, if only during the period of the War.

The difficulty in keeping a House Refuse service going is acute at times, owing to the men falling sick. This is due to the men's age and incapacitation and when these men fail to report for work through sickness, the only men available are either in the same physical capacity or pensioners, or light work men and cannot stand the work. Any assistance and tolerance from Householders will, therefore, be appreciated.

### KITCHEN WASTE FOR PIG SWILL.

May I again draw attention to the dastardly inconsideration of some people who place broken bottles and tins in the salvage paper bags and Pig Swill street bins.

In regard to the paper bags, the Balers have to sort these papers and constantly cut their hands. In the case of the Pig Swill, it is easy to realise the effect on the organs of the pig if a piece of glass is swallowed.

### RATS & MICE.

The engagement of a Rat Catcher has considerably helped in the extermination of a large number of these Pests in infested areas and premises.

It is a prodigious hope and one which will not be realised for many years, to exterminate all rats and mice in the district but it is possible, by continuous action, to keep them down to such a level that no serious loss is made to foodstuffs and properties and serious danger in carrying infection averted.

It is hoped that anyone knowing of any Rat Haunts or observing any rats on their premises, will immediately report same.

## APPENDIX 2.

### HOUSING.

	<u>No. of Flats.</u>
Number of houses converted into Flats approved by Ministry of Health.....4	10
Number converted into Flats by Private Enterprise.....3	5
Number renovated and decorated for War Workers' accommodation.....4	

### RIVERS & STREAMS.

2 cases dealt with.

### SALVAGE.

	Tons.	Cwt.	Qrs.	£	s.	d.
Paper collected	143	8	0	381	0	0
Rubber	6	0	0	9	12	0
Metals	31	9	0	92	3	0
Bones	6	11	0	26	15	0
Rags	7	16	0	141	0	0
Tins	32	17	0	23	1	0
<u>KITCHEN WASTE</u>	248	12	0	338	0	0

### COUNCIL HOUSES. HOUSING REPAIRS.

General Sanitary repairs.....	120
Lavatory repairs.....	43
Other general repairs.....	74
Painted.....	2

### PRIVATE HOUSES.

Repairs and alterations.....	16
after notification.	
Nuisances etc., dealt with.....	29
and abated	

### FACTORY ACT 1937 - FIRE ESCAPES.

Dealt with.....	3
Licences approved.....	2

### DISINFECTION AND FUMIGATION.

Blankets.....	329
Sheets.....	3
Mattresses.....	119
Pillows.....	74
Beds.....	3
Quilts.....	2
Bundles of clothes.....	22
Clothes destroyed.....	1
Room fumigated.....	9
Houses fumigated.....	5

### WATER EXAMINATION.

Town Water Test.....	5 satisfactory.
Wells.....	7 all unsatisfactory.

### MILK TESTS.

There are two accredited milk herds in the District and one Pasteurised Milk Retailer and 36 Producers and Retailers.

## MILK TESTS (contd.)

Pasteurised milk.....5	2 not quite satisfactory.
Milk from herds immediately after milking.....12	all satisfactory.
Accredited milk immediately after milking.....4	1 unsatisfactory.

## GAS EXAMINATION.

Tests taken for Calorific Value	22
" Purity	22
" Water Pressure	22

Daily and Quarterly reports sent to the Ministry of Fuel and Power, London, and copies sent to the Clerk of the Council and to the Gas Company.

## FOODSTUFFS.→ EXAMINED AND CONDEMNED.

Brisket Beef.....	3 tins
Salmon.....	12
Meat Roll.....	12
Tongue.....	3
Fish Roll (untreated).....	3
Loose Salad.....	1
Luncheon Meat.....	6
Butter .....	1
Apples.....	7
Carrots .....	4
Party Loaf.....	9
Beans .....	1
Sausage Meat.....	5
Pilchards.....	11
Evaporated Milk .....	5
Plums.....	9
Condensed Cream.....	5
Unsweetened Milk.....	1
Fish Roll (treated).....	1
C. Beans.....	8
Pork Luncheon Meat.....	2
Herrings.....	3
Chopped Ham.....	6
Peas.....	4
Crawfish.....	3
Vegetables.....	2
Sausage Ham.....	3
Dried Egg.....	26
Swedes.....	1
Blackberries.....	7
Sardines.....	23
Nestles Milk.....	1
Peaches.....	1

Butter (National).....	18 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Beef.....	182 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.

Engineer, Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector's Dept.,  
Cleveland Urban District Council.  
Monday, 5th. July 1943.

COPY/JP.

